

**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Makoto YOSHIDA, Taro OIKE, Noboru YAMANAKA

Application No.: New U.S. Patent Application

Filed: December 27, 2001

Docket No.: 111580

For: THIN FILM MAGNETIC HEAD, MAGNETIC HEAD DEVICE AND MAGNETIC  
DISK DRIVING DEVICE

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please replace claim 15 as follows:

15. (Amended) A magnetic head device comprising a thin film magnetic head as  
defined in claim 1 and a head supporting apparatus to support the thin film magnetic head.

**REMARKS**

Claims 1 - 16 are pending. By this Preliminary Amendment, claim 15 is  
amended to remove multiple dependencies. Prompt and favorable examination on the merits  
is respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R.  
1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

Respectfully submitted,

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Attached: Appendix  
Date: December 27, 2001

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APPENDIX

Changes to Claims:

The following is a marked-up version of the amended claim:

15. (Amended) A magnetic head device comprising a thin film magnetic head as defined in claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-14~~ and a head supporting apparatus to support the thin film magnetic head.